

ROCKFORD BOARD OF EDUCATION
ROCKFORD, ILLINOIS
Meeting Minutes

Administration Building
Tuesday, October 22, 2019

President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 5:03 p.m.

Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary Jude Makulec (arr. 5:11 p.m.), Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor

Absent: Mr. Anthony Dixon

Motion by Mr. Connors seconded by Mr. Siegel that the Board **hold** an executive session to consider the appointment, compensation, discipline, performance or dismissal of specific employees; student disciplinary cases; the placement of individual students in special education programs and other matters relating to individual students; collective bargaining matters; security procedures, school building safety and security; the purchase, sale or lease of real property; or other matters provided for pursuant to §2(c) of the Open Meetings Act.

Approved: 5-0-2

The Board was in executive session from 5:04 p.m. to 6:54 p.m.

1. Call to Order – President Kenneth Scrivano called the regular meeting of the Rockford Board of Education to order at 7:10 p.m.
2. Moment of Silence and Pledge of Allegiance
3. Roll Call
Present: President Kenneth Scrivano, Vice President Tim Rollins, Secretary Jude Makulec, Mr. David Seigel, Mr. Michael Connor
Absent: Mr. Anthony Dixon
Mr. Scrivano thanked Conner Childers and RPS 205 graduate Rod Weddle who are working behind the scenes to produce the Board's broadcast on Channel 20.
4. Proclamation
A. Principals Appreciation Week
Mr. Scrivano read the proclamation, Principals Appreciation Week, to be observed the week of October 20-26, 2019. Friday, October 25, 2019, is Principals Day in Illinois.
5. Petitions & Communications
Mr. Scrivano read the guidelines.
 - Mel Gilfillan spoke in opposition to the Illinois Association of School Board's (IASB) resolution to arm teachers.
 - Jo Minor thanked Board members for their service and spoke on behalf of the League of Women Voters. She spoke in opposition to IASB's Resolution 1 and Resolution 3. Schools should be a place of safety.
 - Kawaia Jackson spoke of school zones and segregation.
6. Board Member Comments
 - Mr. Connor spoke of the passing of William Stokes who was active many years in the Para Professional union. He will be greatly missed.
7. *Consent Items
 - A. Meeting Minutes: Special Board Meeting 10-08-19
 - B. Payroll
 - C. Accounts Payable
 - D. Purchase Orders
 - E. Construction Bid Request Log 10-22-18
 - F. Travel
8. *Bid Recommendations
 - A. ~~IFB 20-07 Computers~~ – pulled by Mr. Connor
9. *Recurring Contracts
 - A. Belles Firm of Architecture – Recommendation on Approval of Contract for Architectural Services – Michael Phillips, Executive Director of Facilities
 - B. Cumberland Therapy Services LLC DBA the Stepping Stones – Dr. Matthew Vosberg, Deputy Superintendent

C. ~~RSP Associates LLC – Consultant's Agreement – Michael Phillips, Executive Director of Facilities~~ – pulled by Mr. Rollins

10. *Other Consent

- A. RPS Managed Work Change Order
- B. New School Construction Change Order Logs
- C. Monthly Cash and Investment Report – September 2019 – Jamie Murray, Executive Director of Finance
- D. ESL Endorsement
- E. IGA First Amendment – Alternative Learning Opportunities Program (ALOP) FY19-20 – Mrs. Angela Hite-Carter and Dr. Matthew Vosberg
- F. Freedom of Information Log

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Consent items not pulled.

Yeas: Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford

Absent: Mr. Dixon

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Bid Recommendation pulled 8A, IFB 20-07 Computers. The fiscal impact is \$3.1M and Administration has put in a lot of work for this recommendation. Leasing the computers offers a cost savings to the District.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

Yeas: Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford, Mr. Rollins

Absent: Mr. Dixon

Approved: 6-0-1

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Recurring Contract pulled 9C, RSP Associates LLC – Consultants Agreement.

RSP Associates LLC completed the District's demographics. This agreement is to complete a District wide functional building analysis due to programmatic changes.

Mr. Scrivano called for the vote.

Yeas: Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano

Absent: Mr. Dixon

Approved: 6-0-1

11. *Closed Session Consent Items

- A. Appointment of Scott Jensen as 12 Month Director of Design and Construction
- B. HR Organizational Report & Addendum

12. *Closed Session Consent Items – Student Discipline

Unless otherwise modified below, the Board adopts and accepts the Hearing Officer's findings and recommendations in the following cases in which students expelled or suspended are prohibited from being on school grounds and school-sponsored activities without the prior written permission of the principal.

- A. GDM-4306-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year through the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.
- B. GDM-4307-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year.
- C. GDM-4308-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year through the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.
- D. GDM-4309-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year
- E. GDM-4310-20 – expelled for the remainder of the 2019-2020 school year through the first semester of the 2020-2021 school year.

13. Closed Session Consent Items – Student Discipline (EIAs)

- A. GDM-1069-20
- B. GDM-3949-20
- C. GDM-3950-20
- D. GDM-3952-20
- E. GDM-3955-20
- F. GDM-3956-20

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Seigel to approve Closed Session Consent items not pulled.

Yeas: Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec

Absent: Mr. Dixon

Approved: 6-0-1

14. Superintendent's Report
A. Superintendent's Report – Dr. Jarrett
Deputy Superintendent Dr. Vosberg gave the Superintendent's Report as Dr. Jarrett was excused.
Dr. Vosberg reiterated the proclamation read at the beginning of the meeting. The month of October is National Principal Appreciate Month. The principals work in the buildings make lives easier for Administration and Board members. Eleven new principals started in the positions at the beginning of the school year; the job has become more complex. Dr. Vosberg asked community and Board members to reach out and thank principals for the job they are doing.
15. *Action Items
A. CDW WLAN Project – Jason Barthel, Executive Director of Technology
Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to **approve** item 15A, CDW WLAN Project.
Approved: Unanimously
16. Other Business/New Business/Agenda Recommendations
Administration is asking to suspend the rules to consider item 16A, as the District has experienced technology outages that have negatively impacted its daily operations. Additional labor will mitigate the recovery effort timeline.
A. ** IT Consolidated Labor Contracts
Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to **suspend the rules** to consider item 16A, IT Consolidated Contracts.
Yeas: Ms. Stanford, Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor
Absent: Mr. Dixon
Approved: 6-0-1
Motion by Mr. Rollins seconded by Mr. Seigel to **approve** item 16A, IT Consolidated Contracts.
Yeas: Mr. Rollins, Mr. Scrivano, Mrs. Makulec, Mr. Seigel, Mr. Connor, Ms. Stanford
Absent: Mr. Dixon
Approved: 6-0-1
B. Board Policy 4.32 Operational Services; Tax Abatement
The current policy limits tax abatement consideration to properties in Enterprise Zones. The proposed revisions would allow the Board to consider property tax abatements for other allowable categories of property including but not limited to commercial and industrial firms and River Edge Redevelopment Zones.
The District's current Policy 4.32 is outdated because it indicates that the Board's decisions for abatements are based on a formula established by the City of Rockford, which the City no longer uses. The Rockford City Council approved several new ordinances related to property tax abatement on September 16, 2019. The City's policy would take effect upon state approval, which is expected by the end of 2019.
Amending Board policy on property tax abatement does not make any proposed abatement automatic. The Board still would vote on any request and determine if an abatement is feasible.
C. Board Policy 4.170 Operational Services; Safety
The drills required by the School Safety Drill Act were more comprehensively described. *105 ILCS 128/1 et seq.* The Annual review requirement of each school building's emergency operations' crisis response plan(s), protocols, and procedures as well as each building's compliance with the school safety drill plan was added. *105 ILCS 128/25 and 128/30; 29 Ill.Admin.Code Part 1500.* In addition, the requirement that an Automated External Defibrillator (AED) and a trained AED user be available at each physical fitness facility was added. *210 ILCS 74/; 77 Ill.Admin.Code Part 527*
D. Board Policy 5.220 Professional Personnel; Substitute Teachers
The Policy was updated to describe Short-term Substitute Teaching Licenses, which may be issued from *7-1-2018 until 6-30-2023. 105 ILCS 5/21B-20(4), 105 ILCS 5/10-20.67* In addition, the permissible paid days and hours for TRS annuitants was updated. *40 ILCS 5/16-118 amended by P.A. 100-596 and P.A. 100-743*
E. Board Policy 5.230 Professional Personnel; Maintaining Student Discipline
Language was added to indicate that teachers shall not use disciplinary methods that may be damaging to students, such as ridicule, sarcasm, or excessive temper displays. Corporal punishment (including slapping, paddling, or prolonged maintenance of a student in physically painful positions, and intentional infliction of bodily harm) may not be used. Teachers may use reasonable force as needed to keep students, school personnel, and others safe, or for self-defense or defense of property. *105 ILCS 5/24-24*
F. Board Policy 7.70 Students; Attendance and Truancy
Policy revisions were made to align with *105 ILCS 5/26-2, amended by P.A. 100-825*, which addresses enrolled students below or over set compulsory attendance ages. The law also requires any persons having custody or control of a child who is enrolled in grades kindergarten through 12 in the public school to cause the child to attend school.

In addition, the requirement a student be excused, for a day or particular day's attendance, related to his/her parent's active duty military service was added. 105 ILCS 5/26-1, amended by P.A., 100-185. Also, language was added to require reasonable efforts to provide ongoing professional development to staff on the appropriate and available supportive services for the promotion of student attendance and engagement. 105 ILCS 5/10-22.6(c-5), amended by P.A. 100-810

The word "sarcasm" will be removed from 5.230.

These will return for a vote at the November 12, 2019.

G. IASB Student Safety Resolution – President Kenneth J. Scrivano

On Saturday November 23, 2019, the Illinois Association of School Boards delegation assembly will be voting on the following non-binding resolution.

"BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Illinois Association of School Boards shall support and advocate for legislation which provides local school boards the option of developing Student Safety and Protection Plans which allow voluntary district employees, in any capacity, the ability to carry a concealed firearm on district property, provided the employee has a valid Illinois FOID card, holds a certified Illinois Concealed Carry License, has completed all additional trainings and certifications set forth by the respective school board, one of which MUST include yearly certified Active Shooter Training. Only district employees who fulfill all requirements listed and receive Superintendent and Board approval would be eligible as an active and armed part of the Student Safety and Protection Plan."

Board members discussed the resolutions at length. Mr. Scrivano suggested members review the resolutions as the voted will take place at the November 12, 2019 meeting.

17. Adjournment

Motion by Mr. Connor seconded by Mr. Rollins to **adjourn.**

Adjournment: 8:09 p.m.

Approved:

President: _____

Secretary: _____

/ljf